

Rural District Council of Fareham.

REPORTS

OF

Medical Officer of Health,

Medical Superintendent Isolation Hospital

AND

Sanitary Surveyor.

Year ended 31st December, 1925,

and 31st March, 1926.

Fareham:

Sutton & Sons, Printers, West Street.

To the

Rural District Council of Fareham.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report, as Medical Officer of Health, for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

The District comprises about 28,371 acres. The Northern part is of a hilly nature, the Portsdown Hills running through a portion of it. The Southern and Western portions are flat, the soil being a mixture of clay and gravel. The North and East are mostly of chalky subsoil.

The inhabitants are chiefly employed in agriculture and farm work. In the Western portion a large fruit growing industry exists, mostly strawberry growing.

General Statistics.

The Population at the Census 1921 was 14,668 ; estimated for 1925, 15,400.

The number of inhabited houses is 3,549.

The number of families or separate occupiers is 3,685.

The rateable value is £72,806, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £303.

Vital Statistics for the Year.

Births		M.	F.	Total	}	Birth Rate 17.8 per 1000.
		Legitimate	Illegitimate			
	...	135	137	272		
	—	8	11	19		
		—	—	—		
		143	148	291		

Birth Rate for England and Wales is 18.3 per 1000.

Deaths	93	77	170	Death Rate 11.0 per 1000.
						Death Rate for England and Wales is 12.2 per 1000.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth, nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age : Legitimate 16 ; Illegitimate 3. Total 19.

Causes of Death.

Whooping Cough	-	-	1	Pneumonia (all forms)	-	-	9
Diphtheria	-	-	2	Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-	2
Influenza	-	-	9	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	-	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	1	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	-	-	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	-	10		Appendicitis	-	-	2
Cancer	-	-	11	Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	1
Rheumatic Fever	-	-	1	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	-	-	5
Diabetes	-	-	3	Congenital Debility, Malformation and			
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	-	16		Premature Birth	-	-	10
Heart Disease	-	-	20	Suicide	-	-	2
Arterio Sclerosis	-	-	6	Other deaths from violence	-	-	7
Bronchitis	-	-	6	Other defined diseases	-	-	42

Notifiable Diseases Notified during the Year.

DISEASES.		Number notified.		Admitted to Hospital.		Deaths.
Diphtheria	-	-	11	-	9	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	15	-	15	-
Tuberculosis—						
(a) Pulmonary	-	21	-	—	-	10
(b) Non-Pulmonary	-	—	-	—	-	—
Chicken Pox	-	19	-	—	-	—
Enteric Fever	-	1	-	1	-	—
Pneumonia	-	2	-	—	-	9
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	2	-	—	-	1
Erysipelas	-	3	-	—	-	—

Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Diphtheria.—The 11 cases were distributed as follows:—Portchester 1; Crofton and Lee 5; Sarisbury 4; Hook-with-Warsash 1.

Scarlet Fever.—Portchester 3; Wickham 7; Crofton and Lee 1; Titchfield 1; Boarhunt 3.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Portchester 2; Crofton and Lee 2; Titchfield 4; Sarisbury 13.

Enteric Fever.—Wickham 1.

Chicken Pox.—Portchester 3; Wickham 4; Titchfield 1; Sarisbury 11.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—Sarisbury 1; Hook-with-Warsash 1.

Note.—Of the Sarisbury cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 10 were inmates of the Sarisbury Court Training School for ex-Service men.

Tuberculosis.

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0						
1						
5						
10						
15						
20	1					
25	7	1			4	2
35	6	2				
45	2				2	1
55	1					1
65 and upwards			1					
	17	4					6	4

The notification of Tuberculosis in this District is satisfactorily carried out by the Medical Practitioners. All the above deaths, with one exception, having been notified. The Registrar of Deaths at once notifies me of all deaths from Tuberculosis, so that the disinfection of premises can be carried out without delay.

Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available in the District.

The District is fairly well off for Midwives and Nurses for home nursing; some of them are assisted by local voluntary contributions.

The Winchester Hospital provides a certain number of beds by arrangements with the County Council, for difficult confinements.

The Infectious Disease Hospital is situate within the Fareham Urban District. The total available beds are 22. A Motor Ambulance is available for the removal of infectious cases.

General Hospitals, situated at Southampton, Winchester and Portsmouth, are within easy distance of any part of the District. A Motor Ambulance has recently been provided in Fareham and District, for running cases to Hospital, etc.

Accommodation for Small Pox cases is in the hands of the County Council, who have hospitals available at Winchester, Basingstoke and Aldershot.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

Great improvement has taken place with regard to the water supply of the district, and a large area is now supplied from the mains of the Companies concerned, and over 20 miles of mains have been laid during the past five years. The supply is constant.

Boarhunt.—No water mains exist, and the chief supply is by shallow wells of varying depths, and the quality of the supply is prolific and fairly good.

Crofton, Rowner and Wickham.—These Parishes are supplied from the mains of the Gosport Waterworks Company, and the supply is available in all the main streets and principal roads. In parts of Rowner and Wickham the supply is from shallow wells.

Sarisbury, Titchfield and Warsash.—This area is supplied by the mains belonging to the Southampton Corporation, and several miles of mains have been laid in an area badly in need of a pure supply, and negotiations are in progress with regard to further extensions.

Well water in the Locks Heath area is liable to have plumb-solvent action, but all wells now have protected pipes.

Southwick.—The village of Southwick is now supplied with water from the mains belonging to the Southwick Estate. The supply is obtained from a very prolific spring situate at Offwell Farm, on the Northern slope of Portsdown Hill, and the supply is known to be of excellent quality.

Portchester and Widley.

These two Parishes are supplied from the mains belonging to the Portsmouth Waterworks Company. With the exception of the agricultural portion of the Parish of Widley, the mains are laid in all the main thoroughfares and new streets.

230 samples of water have been obtained during past five years for Bacteriological and Chemical analysis, and notices have been issued and complied with, without legal proceedings being taken.

Sewerage.

Lee-on-the-Solent, Crofton.—A Sewerage System is in operation at Lee-on-the-Solent, and the Sewage is automatically discharged into the Solent at a certain state of the tide.

The whole of the Sewage gravitates to the Storage Tank at Elmore, and is controlled by valves operated by the balancing machinery, until the tide is at a certain level, when the valves are opened automatically, and the apparatus is so arranged, that the discharge takes place at, and within, a given time. The system is working satisfactorily, and no complaints have been received.

Ten cesspools are still in existence within the Sewerage area and the Council are pressing for these to be abolished and connections made to the Sewers.

Titchfield.—A Sewerage System is under construction and it is anticipated the system will be ready to receive Sewage about the end of April, 1926. The disposal works are situate to the south of the village, and about 200 yards east of the roadway leading to Stubbington.

The Sewage discharges into Storage Tanks in duplicate and is then raised to duplicate Sedimentation Tanks by pumps driven by Electric motors.

The Sewage is automatically discharged by dosing Syphon to distributing Sprinklers. The Effluent passes through Humus Tanks and finally discharges into the River Meon.

Portchester.—A System for Sewage disposal has been constructed in connection with the Council's Housing Scheme at Newtown, and old Sewers receiving the waste water drainage from several houses have been connected up with this system.

The disposal works is situate about 200 yards to the south of Newtown and the main Southampton-Portsmouth Road and 170 yards east of the schools. The Sewage discharges into duplicate Sedimentation Tanks, gravitates to a secondary chamber, and thence to duplicate filter beds with fixed distributing channels. The Effluent discharges into an open ditch leading to Portsmouth Harbour.

Sarisbury.—In connection with the drainage for the Council's Housing Scheme at Addison Road, the Surveyor had been instructed to prepare a scheme for sewage disposal, owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the existing drainage.

The Scheme is designed to receive the drainage from at least 60 houses, and on the request of the Ministry the site has been chosen, so that the drainage from the Swanwick and Park Gate districts may gravitate to the site, when the necessity arrives.

The site for disposal works lies to the north-east of the Housing Site, and about 280 yards distant from the nearest dwelling house.

The proposed works include duplicate Sedimentation Tanks with dosing tank and syphon. The Sewage automatically discharges on to a filter bed with revolving distributor. The Effluent from filter is then directed by a channel constructed around the base of the filter to a carrier leading to main ditch. The flow passes through existing pipe drain to culvert under railway line to ditch leading to tidal stream at Lower Swanwick. The estimated cost of the works is £1550.

Scavenging and Refuse Disposal.

Crofton.—The Council undertake the work of the Cleansing of cesspools, privies and earth closets, and the collection of refuse in the whole area of this parish. The work is done by contract.

The Cesspools, etc. are cleansed on applications received from the householders, and on an average from 650 to 700 orders are executed every year. The collection of refuse is carried out weekly.

The Contractor is held responsible for the proper performance of the duties, and arrangements are made with the farmers and others for the discharge of sewage on the land. The Contractor provides a site for refuse disposal.

The Council do not undertake this work in any other parish, and householders or owners are held responsible for the cleansing of cesspools, privies and earth closets, and the proper disposal of refuse.

Other Districts.—In other districts not covered by the sewerage areas the householders are responsible for the proper disposal of the contents of cesspools, and very few complaints have been received. Proper vehicles are provided by the Council for the use of householders for the cleansing of cesspools, privies, etc.

Closet Accommodation.

The policy adopted with regard to conversion is to treat each case on its merits, and where insanitary or improperly constructed privies exist, pail closets are substituted. For all new houses water or pail closets are constructed. No new privies are allowed.

With regard to the village of Titchfield, the chief accommodation is the privy system, but when the new sewerage system is in operation, the privies will be abolished and water closets provided.

Schools.

The Schools at Stubbington, Lee-on-Solent, Titchfield, Locks Heath, Sarisbury, Southwick, Wickham, and Portchester are supplied with water from the mains.

The Schools at Hook-with-Warsash and Boarhunt, are supplied by wells, and the quality is fairly good.

Periodical inspections are made as to the sanitation, and the condition of the closet accommodation has been greatly improved by the County Authorities.

Schools are closed if considered necessary, to prevent spread of infection in certain diseases. Contacts are isolated and swabbs taken, and "carriers" searched for when necessary.

Rivers and Streams.

Titchfield.—The existing drainage of Titchfield discharges at two points into the River Meon, but a sewerage scheme is under construction to prevent the pollution of the river.

Wickham.—The waste water drainage of the village discharges at three points into the River Meon, and particular attention is paid to keep the river as free as possible from pollution. Frequent and periodical flushings take place.

Southwick.—Waste water drainage from the village discharges into the River Wallington at two points, and owing to the natural falls, no pollution is apparent.

Housing.

The number of new houses erected during the five years ending December, 1925, is 831; 675 by private enterprise, and 156 by the Council under the Housing Act of 1919. The number erected in each year is as follows :—

By PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.—1920, 29; 1921, 67; 1922, 90; 1923, 148; 1924, 190; 1925, 151. Total, 675.

COUNCIL HOUSING SCHEMES.—1921, 14; 1922, 142. Total, 156. Distributed in the several parishes as follows :—Portchester, 60; Titchfield, 36; Crofton, 32; Sarisbury, 28.

Plans were prepared for Housing Schemes at Locks Heath, Fleet End, Southwick, Boarhunt and Wickham, but these schemes were abandoned on instructions received from the Ministry. The Sites at Locks Heath, Fleet End and Southwick were taken over by the original owners of the land, and the sites at Boarhunt and Wickham were sold by the Council to private individuals for building purposes. Three houses have been erected on the site at Boarhunt, and a scheme for the erection of 16 houses has been approved by the Council. Eleven of these houses have been completed, and the remainder are in course of erection.

Although building operations exceed the pre-war normal level, there is a housing shortage in several parishes. Building progress in the parishes of Sarisbury and Warsash is below the normal requirements, and no houses have been erected in the parish of Southwick for over 25 years. With the Government assistance 285 houses have been erected under the Housing Act of 1923. Houses cannot be erected on an economical basis, the rents being beyond the reach of the ordinary working class man or agricultural labourer, and on this account overcrowding exists, and cannot be obviated until the cost of building is reduced to an appreciable degree. Houses erected under the Act of 1924 would considerably relieve the situation, especially in the agricultural parishes.

With regard to the building operatives there is very little unemployment, and owing to the number of houses in course of erection in this district, there is insufficient labour to carry out repairs to existing houses, but certain progress has been made to deal with urgent matters by informal action. Very few complaints have been received.

Food.

Milk Supply.—Visits have been made by me to the various Cowsheds and Dairies in the District.

The majority are clean and well kept, others are not quite up to the required standard. To attain the necessary standard throughout the whole district more frequent inspections are necessary. The application of the Milk and Dairies Act 1915 and 1922 is considerably overdue.

Slaughter Houses. Public—Nil.

Private.

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.
Registered	8	8	7
Licensed	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	...	8	7

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

This work is carried out by the County Council Officers. Of 56 samples of food taken, 5 were unsatisfactory, viz. : 1 Egg Powder sample contained no egg. 1 Milk contained 7.8 p.c. excess water. 1 Milk 11 p.c. deficient in milk fat. 1 Puff Pastry preserved with Boracic compounds. 1 Rum contained 6.88 p.c. excess water.

Infectious Diseases Generally.

The prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases has not been excessive during the five years under consideration.

There is more inter-communication between towns and villages by 'bus and trams, more attendances at Cinemas, etc., than in bygone days. These facts, no doubt, tend to introduce and spread infectious diseases.

Full use is made of the facilities for pathological and bacteriological examinations at the County Laboratory for the detection of diseases and "carriers."

No use has been made, to my knowledge, of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively.

No Vaccinations have been performed by me as Medical Officer of Health. The district is not too well protected by vaccination. About 40 per cent. of the children escape on grounds of conscientious objections.

HOUSING, 1925.

During the past year plans were submitted and approved by the Council for 235 Houses, 16 alterations and additions, and 30 other buildings of various descriptions. In the same period, 151 Houses, 21 alterations and additions, and 28 other buildings of various descriptions were completed.

Number of new houses completed during the year 1925—151.

1. <i>Unfit dwelling houses.</i>					
(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	33				
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of Districts) Regulation, 1910	Nil				
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil				
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	33				
2. <i>Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notice</i>	10				
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	25				
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers.</i>					
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order.			Butchers' Shops.		
Number of Cowsheds 104			Number of Butchers' Shops ... 15		
", Dairies 47			Inspections ... 35		
", Cooling Places 28			Notices served ... 1		
Inspection made—			Offensive Trades.		
Cowsheds 184			Number of Offensive Trades ... 5		
Dairies, &c. 112			Inspections ... 16		
Notices served 8			Notices served ... 4		
Factories and Workshops Acts.			Petroleum Acts.		
Bakehouses 19			Inspections 38		
Inspections 57					
Notices served 3					
Slaughter Houses.			Crofton Scavenging.		
Number of Slaughter Houses 7			During the year 690 Cesspools were cleansed.		
Inspections 24					
Notices served 2					
Examination of private drains - 6. Reports made - 10.					
			Public Health Staff.		
Medical Officer of Health, part time, D.P.H., grant given. Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, whole time, Cert. R. San., I. and C.S.I., grant given. Temporary Assistant Sanitary Inspector, whole time, no qualifications, no grant given. Four men are employed for disinfecting and other purposes when required. A man is in charge of Sewage Works at Lee. A summary of Sanitary work done and visits made by the Sanitary Inspector is attached.					

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. D. BROOK, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

FAREHAM,
April, 1925.

Medical Officer of Health.

Rural District Council of Fareham

Report of Sanitary Surveyor.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE.

	Number of Inspections.	Abatement Notices.		Nuisances Abated after Notice by	
		Informal.	Formal.	Inspector.	Authority.
Structural defects	59	25	2	21	2
Overcrowding	26	4	1	2	2
Unfit for Habitation	22	4	2	—	2
Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies, Milkshops & Cooling houses	112	3	—	2	1
Cowsheds	184	5	—	5	3
Bakehouses	57	3	—	2	1
Slaughter Houses & Butcher Shops	59	3	—	3	—
Ashpits and Privies	35	13	1	—	1
Refuse and Manure	39	12	1	7	1
Water Closets	21	10	—	8	—
Defective Traps	14	5	—	4	—
Other faults	19	7	—	4	—
Water Supply	57	11	20	8	14
Pigstyes	28	13	2	9	2
Offensive Trades	16	4	—	3	—

FAREHAM,
April, 1926.

L. W. HUNT,
Sanitary Surveyor.

To the Fareham Rural District Council.

Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital For the Year ending March 31st, 1926.

GENTLEMEN,

During the past year, 65 cases have been admitted to the Hospital: 24 from the Rural District, and 41 from the Urban.

The number of the various Diseases were as follows:—

From the Rural District, 10 of Diphtheria, 13 of Scarlet Fever, and 1 of Enteric Fever.

From the Urban District, 30 of Diphtheria and 11 of Scarlet Fever.

Of these, 4 died, 2 from the Rural and 2 from the Urban, the remainder were discharged cured.

The Rural cases were admitted from the following Parishes:—

From Rowner, 2 of Diphtheria.

,, Crofton (including Lee-on-Solent) 3 of Diphtheria and 2 of Scarlet Fever.

,, Wickham, 6 of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Enteric Fever.

,, Sarisbury, 3 of Diphtheria.

,, Warsash, 1 of Diphtheria.

,, Portchester, 3 of Scarlet Fever.

,, Titchfield, 1 of Diphtheria and 1 of Scarlet Fever.

,, Southwick, 1 of Scarlet Fever.

All of the Scarlet Fever cases were of a mild character, but several of the Diphtheria's were severe, from which there were 4 fatal cases.

Staff.

The Staff I have again to record, have worked well, and have been quite satisfactory.

I beg to remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. M. CASE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

April 28th, 1926.

Medical Superintendent.